



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Christine Decaria Docket No.: 18866
Serial No.: 10/635,729 Group:
Confirmation No: 8863 Examiner:
Filed: August 6, 2003
For: Ferrule and Enteral Tube Incorporating A Ferrule

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicant, through and by his or her attorneys, hereby wishes to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the modified PTO 1449 Form. A copy of each non U.S. patent document listed on the Form is also presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/635,293 filed August 6, 2003, by
Christine Decaria for "Connector With Protrusion Adapted for Interconnection
With Second Member."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/635,288 filed August 6, 2003, by
Christine Decaria for "Connector With Connection Mechanism Adapted for
Releasable Interconnection With Tube."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449, however, copies are provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant in no way admits that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicant recommends that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicant requests the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicant requests that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein listed or submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.


Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (770) 587-7183.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTINE DECARIA

By:




William W. Letson
Registration No.: 42,797

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, William W. Letson, hereby certify that on November 13, 2003 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:



William W. Letson

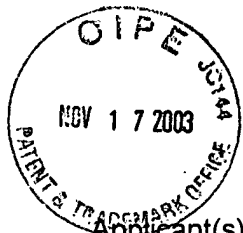


List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Christine Decaria
Serial No.: 10/635,729
Filed: August 6, 2003

Docket 18866
Group:
Examiner:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A1	3,648,703	3/14/1972	Manker			
	A2	4,133,312	1/19/1979	Burd			
	A3	4,393,873	7/19/1983	Nawash et al.			
	A4	4,511,163	4/16/1985	Harris et al.			
	A5	4,666,433	5/19/1987	Parks			
	A6	4,685,901	8/11/1987	Parks			
	A7	4,701,163	10/20/1987	Parks			
	A8	4,796,628	1/10/1989	Anderson			
	A9	4,798,592	1/17/1989	Parks			
	A10	4,799,923	1/24/1989	Campbell			
	A11	4,834,712	5/30/1989	Quinn et al.			
	A12	4,969,879	11/13/1990	Lichte			
	A13	5,037,405	8/6/1991	Crosby			
	A14	5,057,093	10/15/1991	Clegg et al.			
	A15	5,073,166	12/17/1991	Parks et al.			
	A16	5,146,913	9/15/1992	Khorsandian et al.			
	A17	5,234,417	8/10/1993	Parks et al.			
	A18	5,248,306	9/28/1993	Clark et al.			
	A19	5,250,040	10/05/1993	Parks et al.			
	A20	5,267,983	12/7/1993	Oilschlager et al.			
	A21	5,273,523	12/28/1993	Sozuki et al.			
	A22	5,322,073	6/21/1994	Michels et al.			
	A23	5,399,173	3/21/1995	Parks et al.			
	A24	5,437,650	8/1/1995	Larkin et al.			
	A25	5,507,733	4/16/1996	Larkin et al.			
	A26	5,527,280	6/18/1996	Goelz			
	A27	5,549,657	8/27/1996	Stern et al.			
	A28	5,554,140	9/10/1996	Michels et al.			
	A29	5,569,222	10/29/1996	Haselhorst et al.			
	A30	5,645,539	7/8/1997	Solomon et al.			
	A31	5,716,347	2/10/1998	Gibbs et al.			
	A32	5,735,841	4/7/1998	Bourguignon et al.			
	A33	5,738,661	4/14/1998	Larice			
	A34	5,833,275	11/10/1998	Andersen			
	A35	5,860,952	1/19/1999	Quinn			



List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Christine Decaria Docket 18866
 Serial No.: 10/635,729 Group:
 Filed: August 6, 2003 Examiner:

	A36	5,860,960	1/19/1999	Quinn			
	A37	5,865,816	2/2/1999	Quinn			
	A38	5,988,700	11/23/1999	Prichard			
	A39	6,019,746	2/1/2000	Picha et al.			
	A40	6,036,673	3/14/2000	Quinn			
	A41	6,045,536	4/4/2000	Meier et al.			
	A42	6,071,264	6/6/2000	Castor			
	A43	6,113,625	9/5/2000	Foley			
	A44	6,165,168	12/26/2000	Russo			
	A45	6,287,281	9/11/2001	Nishtala et al.			
	A46	6,375,231	4/23/2002	Picha et al.			
	A47	6,458,106	10/1/2002	Meier et al.			
	A48	6,471,676	10/29/2002	DeLegge et al.			
	A49	D360,030	7/4/1995	Michels et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents

Initials	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans.	
						Yes	No
	A1	2,024,696	1/2/2001	CA			
	A2	0416580B1	2/15/1995	EP			
	A3	WO 02/13901	2/21/2002	WO-PCT			
	A4	WO 02/66108	8/29/2002	WO-PCT			

Other Documents

Initials	Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc.
A1	
A2	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered: